<u>**Remarks**</u>

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed September 4, 2009.

Claims 1, 4-9, 11-15, 30, 33-38, 40-44, and 50-52 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-9, 11-15, 30, 33-38, 40-44, and 50-52. The present Response amends claims 1, 6, 13, 30, 35, 42 and 50, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration claims 1, 4-9, 11-15, 30, 33-38, 40-44, and 50-52. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested.

## I.  Summary of Examiner's Rejections

Claims 13 and 42 were objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 13 and 42 recite the limitation "**an** hypertext transfer protocol", wherein "an" should be replaced by "a".

Claims 6, 13, 35 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 4-9, 11-15, 30, 33-38, 40-44, and 50-52 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuff et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,628, hereafter Anuff), in view of Hough et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0118226, hereinafter Hough).

## II.  Summary of Applicant's Amendment

The present Reply amends Claims 1, 6, 13, 30, 35, 42 and 50, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1, 4-9, 11-15, 30, 33-38, 40-44, and 50-52.

## III.  Claim Objections

Claims 13 and 42 were objected to because of informalities.

Claims 13 and 42 have been amended. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended, comply with the Examiner's requirement.

Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

## IV.  Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 6, 13, 35 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Claims 6, 13, 35 and 42 have been amended. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended, conform with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

## V.    <u>Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103(a)</u>

Claims 1, 4-9, 11-15, 30, 33-38, 40-44, and 50-52 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuff et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,327,628, hereafter Anuff), in view of Hough et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0118226, hereinafter Hough).

**Claim 1**

Claim 1 has been amended to recite as follows.

*1. (Currently Amended)    A method for supporting a portal application, comprising:*

*accepting a request, at a container on one or more web servers, from a user that interacts with a graphical user interface (GUI) of a web application at a client side;*

*mapping the request to a control tree factory, wherein the control tree factory can obtain an XML stream from different sources and parse the XML stream into a Document Object Model (DOM) tree;*

*processing the DOM tree and generating a control tree in the container by the control tree factory from the DOM tree based on the request, wherein the control tree is a logical representation of the graphical user interface (GUI), wherein the control tree includes a set of controls, each of which represents at least one of a graphical and a functional element in the GUI, and is related hierarchically to one another control in the set of controls;*

*advancing the control tree through at least one lifecycle stage in a sequence of one or more lifecycles, wherein at least one control in the control tree operates to interact with another control in the control tree through an event notification mechanism; and*

*aggregating the output of each of the set of controls and providing the output to the GUI.*

Anuff discloses a portal server that represents an HTML page that comprises a plurality of modules formatted in a pre-determined layout (Abstract). Furthermore, Anuff discloses an object model that supports an object-oriented system such as a portal server (Fig 4, Lines 60-64).

Hough discloses a user interface mechanism to relate information from multiple heterogeneous data sources (Abstract).

However, there is no indication in the combined teaching of Anuff and Hough that the control tree factory can create the control tree object model from an XML stream obtained from different sources, by first parsing the XML stream into a DOM tree and, then, processing the DOM tree to create the control tree objects.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

**Claims 16 and 30**

Claims 16 and 30, while independently patentable, recite limitations that, similarly to Claim 1, are not disclosed nor rendered obvious by the cited references. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

**Claims 4-9, 11-15, 33-38, 40-44 and 50-52**

Claims 4-9, 11-15, 33-38, 40-44 and 50-52 are not addressed separately, but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim, and further in view of the comments provided above.

It is also submitted that these claims also add their own limitations which render them patentable in their own right. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to argue these limitations should it become necessary in the future.

**VI.    Conclusion**

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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